



Indiana State Representative

Matt Pierce

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Matt Pierce



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Take this opportunity to share your views

2003 Session will bring legislative, fiscal challenges



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JUDICIARY

February 2003

Dear Friend:

As your newly-elected state representative, I am working hard to meet the high standards of representation that we came to expect during the 16 years Mark Kruzan represented us in the General Assembly.

I intend to continue his tradition of keeping you informed about what is happening at the Statehouse.

I have been appointed to four key committees: Technology, Research and Development; Environmental Affairs; Judiciary; and Courts and Criminal Code. I hope to use my position on these committees to create more jobs in Indiana, better protect our environment and to ensure equal justice for all of Indiana's citizens.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to represent you in the House of Representatives. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you ever need assistance with a state government matter or want to share an opinion with me about some of the many issues before the General Assembly.

Sincerely,



Matt Pierce
State Representative



The legislative chamber of the Indiana House of Representatives

...The General Assembly must make decisions based on what is best for Indiana's long-term future. It can no longer afford to do only what will get us by for the next few years...

2003 Legislative Survey

Please fill out the survey and mail it to me, or [complete the survey online at www.in.gov/H61](http://www.in.gov/H61). Another member of your household may respond in the second set of answers.

1. Do you support the Governor's recent selection of a route that runs through Monroe County for the proposed I-69 extension?

☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Recently, Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan announced the "Energize Indiana" plan that will focus on expansion and growth in the state's educational and economic efforts. Their intention is to finance these proposals without relying on state tax dollars by using 40 percent of the funds from Indiana's share of the national tobacco settlement not already dedicated to health care programs. Do you agree with this approach?

☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Do you believe the state should have authority to levy stiffer fines and other penalties against utility companies that violate state laws or regulations?

☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Like many states, Indiana is facing a large budget deficit. How would you balance the budget?

☐ A. Freeze current spending and fill the rest of the budget gap by borrowing from money being saved in dedicated funds for things like future teachers' pensions.

☐ B. Further cut existing programs.

☐ C. Raise taxes.

☐ D. Delay property tax reassessment so revenue from the recent sales tax increase can be used to reduce the deficit rather than its original purpose of limiting property tax increases likely to be caused by reassessment.
5. If you support cutting funding for existing programs, which areas would you cut?

☐ A. Health care.

☐ B. Infrastructure, such as roads and bridges.

☐ C. Corrections, including state prisons.

☐ D. Human services.

☐ E. K-12 education.

☐ F. Higher education.

☐ G. Incentives for economic development.
6. Should laws be changed to make it easier to sentence non-violent criminals to work-release, house arrest or other alternative programs rather than jail time to reduce overcrowding in state prisons and county jails?

☐ Yes ☐ No
7. Do you support allowing casino gaming in Orange County to reduce its high unemployment rate and preserve historic structures?

☐ Yes ☐ No
8. Should all of Indiana observe Daylight Saving Time?

☐ Yes ☐ No
9. Should a two cent excise tax be placed on each bottle of water sold to fund clean water programs?

☐ Yes ☐ No
10. Should the Indiana Constitution be amended to provide a constitutional right to hunt and fish?

☐ Yes ☐ No



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Stay in touch

with Representative Pierce
and the Indiana General Assembly

The 113th Session of the Indiana Legislature is now in session. Below are some ways to stay involved.

Online

The official Web site for the State of Indiana is at www.in.gov. This is a good place to start if you're interested in information about Indiana and various government services.

Additionally, each representative has a Web site with information on his or her background, education and contact information. My site is at www.in.gov/H61. There you may also learn about bills that I have filed, read newsletters, and apply to become a page or an intern.

You can listen to live webcasts of the House of Representatives at www.in.gov/legislative.

E-mail updates

Would you like to receive e-mail updates with news from the State House? You are always encouraged to contact me directly via e-mail, but I would also be happy to send you news from time to time about what is going on at the State House.

To receive updates, e-mail me at H61@in.gov and ask to have your name added to the list, or **just include your e-mail address on the front of the survey response card**. It's a simple way to stay informed about the issues that impact our state and community.

Becoming a page

Serving as a page during the 2003 session allows any child age 13 or older the opportunity to gain a firsthand glimpse of how the legislative system works. Students will be excused from school on the day they are serving as a page and will spend the entire day at the State House.

Interested students should send me their name, parent or guardian's name, address, phone number, school and two different dates when the student could come to the State House between now and late April, 2003.

Please note that positions fill up quickly, so apply as soon as possible!

In person

Sessions of the Indiana General Assembly are open to the public. You may observe the House yourself, seeing our democratic system at work. No need to schedule an appointment—you're always welcome. The House chamber has a visitors' gallery on the fourth floor from which you can view proceedings.

Whichever method you prefer, I hope you will keep informed and stay involved.

Please place
your stamp
here.

Yes!

Add my e-mail address to your update list!

My e-mail address is:

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